

Application No.: 10/003,246

Docket No.: 21986-00005-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (New) A method for pre-treatment of used tires before a pyrolysis process, comprising:

cleaning at least one tire with high pressure air jets in a closed chamber of a cleaning station prior to feeding said at least one tire to a first heating stage of said pyrolysis process;

continuously conducting contaminated air through an air cleaning device, wherein said contaminated air contains dust and other dirt particles from said at least one tire;

removing said dust and said other dirt particles from said contaminated air in said cleaning device to produce cleaned air, wherein removing said dust and said other dirt particles from said contaminated air is accomplished by providing a high voltage electric field between a central charging electrode of a first polarity and a collecting electrode of a second polarity opposite said first polarity, and wherein said central charging electrode includes radially directed tips; and

feeding said cleaned air to a high pressure blower to produce said high pressure air jets.

12. (New) A method for pre-treatment of used tires before a pyrolysis process, comprising:

cleaning at least one whole tire in a cleaning station with high pressure air jets; and

subsequently feeding said at least one whole tire into a first heating stage of said pyrolysis process.

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13. (New) A method for pre-treatment of used tires before a pyrolysis process,
comprising:

cleaning at least one whole tire in a cleaning station with high pressure air jets;

subsequently compressing said at least one whole tire into a block of reduced size; and

subsequently feeding said block into a first heating stage of said pyrolysis process.